

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-37 (canceled).

Claim 38 (new) A method of treating or preventing the inflammatory response of colitis in a subject comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a substance that modulates NK-T cell activity.

Claim 39 (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the substance modulates NK-T cell activity by reducing NK-T cell activity.

Claim 40 (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the substance modulates NK-T cell activity by maintaining a level of NK-T cell activity.

Claim 41 (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the subject is a mouse.

Claim 42 (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the subject is a human.

Claim 43 (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the colitis is caused by an inflammatory bowel disorder.

Claim 44 (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the colitis is caused by an ulcerative colitis.

Claim 45 (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the colitis is oxazolone colitis.

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Claim 46 (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the substance that modulates NK-T cell activity is an antibody.

Claim 47 (new) The method of claim 46, wherein the antibody prevents antigen recognition.

Claim 48 (new) The method of claim 46, wherein the antibody reduces the number of NK-T cells in the subject.

Claim 49 (new) The method of claim 47, wherein the antibody binds to CD1.

Claim 50 (new) The method of claim 47, wherein the antibody binds to V α 14 J α 281.

Claim 51 (new) The method of claim 47, wherein the antibody binds to V α 24 J α 18.

Claim 52 (new) A method of treating or preventing the inflammatory response of colitis in a subject comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a substance that modulates IL-13 activity.

Claim 53 (new) The method of claim 52, wherein the substance modulates IL-13 activity by reducing IL-13 activity.

Claim 54 (new) The method of claim 52, wherein the substance modulates IL-13 activity by maintaining a level of IL-13 activity.

Claim 55 (new) The method of claim 52, wherein the substance modulates IL-13 activity by modulating NK-T cell activity.

Claim 56 (new) The method of claim 55, wherein NK-T cell activity is modulated by reducing NK-T cell activity in the subject.

Claim 57 (new) The method of claim 55, wherein NK-T cell activity is modulated by reducing the number of NK-T cells in the subject.

Claim 58 (new) The method of claim 55, wherein NK-T cell activity is modulated by maintaining a level of NK-T cell activity.

Claim 59 (new) The method of claim 55, wherein NK-T cell activity is modulated by an antibody.

Claim 60 (new) The method of claim 59, wherein the antibody prevents antigen recognition.

Claim 61 (new) The method of claim 59, wherein the antibody reduces the number of NK-T cells in the subject.

Claim 62 (new) The method of claim 59, wherein the antibody binds to CD1.

Claim 63 (new) The method of claim 59, wherein the antibody binds to V α 14 J α 281.

Claim 64 (new) The method of claim 59, wherein the antibody binds to V α 24 J α 18.

Claim 65 (new) The method of claim 52, wherein the subject is a mouse.

Claim 66 (new) The method of claim 52, wherein the subject is a human.

Claim 67 (new) The method of claim 52, wherein the colitis is caused by an inflammatory bowel disorder.

Claim 68 (new) The method of claim 52, wherein the colitis is caused by ulcerative colitis.

Claim 69 (new) The method of claim 52, wherein the colitis is oxazolone colitis.

Claim 70 (new) The method of claim 52, wherein the substance reduces IL-13 production.

Claim 71 (new) The method of claim 52, wherein the substance that modulates IL-13 activity is an antibody.

Claim 72 (new) The method of claim 52, wherein the substance is IL 13 α R α 2-Fc.

Claim 73 (new) The method of claim 71, wherein the antibody binds to IL-13.

Claim 74 (new) The method of claim 71, wherein the antibody binds to the IL-13R α 2.

Claim 75 (new) A method of screening a substance for effectiveness in reducing the inflammatory response of colitis by modulating NK-T cell activity comprising:

- a) obtaining an animal having colitis;
- b) administering the substance to an animal;
- c) assaying the animal for an effect on NK-T cell activity which results in the reduction of the inflammatory response of the colitis, thereby identifying a substance effective in reducing the inflammatory response of colitis by modulating NK-T cell activity.

Claim 76 (new) The method of claim 75, wherein the animal is a mouse.

Claim 77 (new) The method of claim 75, wherein the colitis is oxazolone colitis.

Claim 78 (new) The method of claim 75, wherein the animal has an established colitis produced by introducing into the colon of the animal an effective amount of a hapten reagent.

Claim 79 (new) The method of claim 75, wherein the hapten reagent is oxazolone (4-ethoxymethylene-2-phenyl-2-oxazolin-5-one).

Claim 80 (new) The method of screening a substance for effectiveness in reducing the inflammatory response of colitis by modulating IL-13 activity comprising:

- a) obtaining an animal having colitis;
- b) administering the substance to an animal;
- c) assaying the animal for an effect on IL-13 activity which results in the reduction of the inflammatory response of the colitis, thereby identifying a substance effective in reducing the inflammatory response of colitis by modulating IL-13 activity.

Claim 81 (new) The method of claim 80, wherein the animal is a mouse.

Claim 82 (new) The method of claim 80, wherein the colitis is oxazolone colitis.

Claim 83 (new) A method of screening for a substance effective in preventing the inflammatory response of colitis by modulating IL-13 activity comprising:

- a) administering the substance to an animal susceptible to colitis;
- b) subjecting the animal to treatment that will induce an inflammatory response; and

- c) assaying inflammatory tissue cells from the animal for an amount of secretion of IL-13, whereby a decrease or lack of increase in the amount of IL-13 in the inflammatory tissue cells of the animal as compared to an increase in the amount of IL-13 in a control animal having colitis in the absence of the substance identifies a substance that is effective in preventing the inflammatory response of colitis by modulating IL-13 activity.

Claim 84 (new) A method of screening for a substance effective in preventing the inflammatory response of colitis by modulating NK-T cell activity comprising:

- a) administering the substance to an animal susceptible to colitis;
- b) subjecting the animal to treatment that will induce an inflammatory response;
and
- c) assaying the animal for an effect on NK-T cell activity, whereby a decrease or lack of increase in NK-T cell activity in the inflammatory tissue cells of the animal as compared to an increase in NK-T cell activity in a control animal having colitis in the absence of the substance identifies a substance that is effective in preventing the inflammatory response of colitis by modulating NK-T cell activity.